

## **SHORT-TERM AND EMERGENCY DISCHARGES GENERAL PERMIT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (LAG420000)**

### *1. In what types of situations does the general permit apply?*

Types of situations in which this general permit may be utilized include, but are not limited to: abnormal (e.g., irregular or atypical) discharges associated with natural disasters; discharges associated with or resulting from fires, explosions, or similar emergency events; and discharges that will occur one-time or for a limited duration (e.g. a few weeks or a couple of months).

### *2. What are short term discharges?*

Short term discharges are discharges that will occur one-time or for a limited duration.

Types of short term discharges include: treated sanitary wastewater and/or dewatering of oxidation ponds discharges; stormwater discharges; hydrostatic test wastewater; utility wash waters, including but not limited to pavement and building washdown waters with or without soaps and detergents; chlorinated water from swimming pool and fountain dewatering; gray water; bridge washing activities; exterior vehicle and equipment wash water; pressure washing activities of parking lots or building exteriors; water from flushing of water well and water distribution systems; hydroblasting; and other short term wastewater discharges which can be controlled by the limitations in this permit.

### *3. What are emergency discharges?*

Emergency discharges are abnormal discharges associated with natural disasters; discharges associated with or resulting from fires, explosions, or similar emergency events.

Types of emergency discharges include: treated sanitary wastewater and/or dewatering of oxidation ponds discharges; stormwater discharges; hydrostatic test wastewater; utility wash waters, including but not limited to pavement and building washdown waters with or without soaps and detergents; equipment and vehicle wash water; potable water treatment plant filter backwash, clarifier blowdown, water softening, iron and manganese removal, and disinfection of source water; discharges of landfill wastewater from a construction/demolition debris and woodwaste landfill related to post-emergency clean up; non-contact stormwater discharges from a construction/demolition debris and woodwaste landfill related to post-emergency clean up; emergency discharges related to preparation for natural disasters or the clean-up of natural disasters or in emergency situations, such as hurricanes, fires, or explosions; and other emergency wastewater discharges which can be controlled by the limitations in this permit.

*4. Who is covered under the general permit?*

The general permit is not intended to cover facilities with existing LPDES permits. All LPDES permits have upset and bypass provisions in the Standard Conditions of the permit. Therefore, facilities with existing LPDES permits should not need to be covered under this general permit.

The general permit does not cover routine discharges.

*5. How long is each general permit authorization effective?*

The general permit authorization expires 180 days after authorization.

Emergency discharges authorized under the general permit may be granted one 180-day extension. The permittee must submit a new notice of intent to discharge under this permit before the completion of the previous 180 days of coverage 72 hours prior to the expiration date of the general permit authorization.

Short term discharges authorized under the general permit may have authorizations with durations less than 180 days (e.g. 1 or 2 months).

*6. The facility does hydrostatic testing around the state. These discharges are typically a one time discharge. Does the facility qualify for the Short-Term and Emergency General Permit?*

No, because the facility routine does hydrostatic testing in the state. The facility should obtain statewide coverage under the Hydrostatic Test General Permit.